

H. D. F.

THIRTY-FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

BOARD OF DIRECTION

OF THE

SAINT LOUIS

MERCANTILE LIBRARY

ASSOCIATION.

ST. LOUIS:
PRINTED FOR THE ASSOCIATION.

1880.
[Handwritten mark]

S T. LOUIS:
Press of G. I. Jones and Company.

OFFICERS
OF THE
ST. LOUIS MERCANTILE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
FOR THE YEAR 1880.

PRESIDENT:

THOMAS E. TUTT.

VICE - PRESIDENT:

ROBERT E. CARR.

SECRETARIES:

Corresponding, *Recording,*

ROBERT B. WHITTEMORE. WILLIAM L. SCOTT.

TREASURER:

JOHN R. LIONBERGER.

DIRECTORS:

ROBT. S. BROOKINGS, CHARLES E. SLAYBACK,
JOHN J. CANTWELL, EDWARD C. SIMMONS,
EDWARD D. MEIER, EDWARD J. GLASGOW, JR.

ACTUARY AND LIBRARIAN:

JOHN N. DYER.

ASSISTANT LIBRARIANS:

First, *Second,*

W. H. H. ANDERSON. JAMES A. YEATMAN.

DESK CLERKS:

HOWARD M. GOODE. E. G. PETERSON.

JANITOR:

SAMUEL CLEGG.

COMMITTEES FOR 1880.

WAYS AND MEANS:

ROBERT E. CARR, JOHN J. CANTWELL.
ROBERT S. BROOKINGS.

LIBRARY AND READING-ROOM:

ROBT. B. WHITTEMORE, CHARLES E. SLAYBACK,
EDWARD D. MEIER.

BOOKS AND DONATIONS:

WILLIAM L. SCOTT, ROBERT S. BROOKINGS;
ROBERT E. CARR, ROBERT B. WHITTEMORE.

LECTURES:

JOHN R. LIONBERGER, EDWARD C. SIMMONS,
EDWARD J. GLASGOW, JR.

HALL AND BUILDING:

THOMAS E. TUTT, ROBERT E. CARR,
JOHN R. LIONBERGER.

PRESIDENTS OF THE ASSOCIATION

FROM ITS ORGANIZATION.

1846-7	JAMES E. YEATMAN.
1848-9	ALFRED VINTON.
1850-1	HUDSON E. BRIDGE.
1852	HENRY D. BACON.
1853	J. H. ALEXANDER.
1854-5	JOHN T. DOUGLASS.
1856	W. M. MORRISON.
1857	JOHN W. LUKE.
1858	M. V. L. McCLELLAND.
1859-60	J. B. S. LEMOINE.
1861	ALFRED CARR.
1862-3	JOHN H. BEACH.
1864-5	CHARLES MILLER.
1866-7	GEORGE R. ROBINSON.
1868-9	LAFAYETTE WILSON.
1870-1	RICHARD M. SCRUGGS.
1872-3	CHARLES SPECK.
1874-5	SAMUEL M. DODD.
1876-7	EDWIN HARRISON.
1878-9	R. R. HUTCHINSON.

TRUSTEES.

JAMES E. YEATMAN, **J. B. S. LEMOINE,**
JOHN H. BEACH, **JOHN W. LUKE,**
 RICHARD M. SCRUGGS.

THIRTY-FOURTH ANNUAL MEETING
OF THE
ST. LOUIS MERCANTILE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION,
JANUARY 13, 1880.

ROOMS OF MERCANTILE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION, }
St. Louis, January 13, 1880. }

The thirty-fourth annual meeting of the association, held this evening, was called to order by the president, R. R. Hutchinson, on whose motion Mr. Gerard B. Allen was called to the chair.

On motion of Messrs. Luke and Hutchinson, Messrs. W. C. Buchanan and John R. Lionberger were appointed secretaries.

The minutes of the last annual meeting were read and approved.

The committee on ways and means submitted the following report: —

ST. LOUIS, January 13, 1880.

The committee on ways and means beg leave to report that they have examined the books and accounts of the association, and find the same correct, and properly substantiated by vouchers for all disbursements made.

W. A. HARGADINE,
R. B. WHITTEMORE,
Committee.

On motion of Mr. John R. Lionberger, the report of the committee on ways and means was received and adopted.

The treasurer, Mr. Thomas E. Tutt, read his report,

giving a detailed statement of the receipts and expenditures for the year, which, on motion, was received and adopted.

The president, Mr. R. R. Hutchinson, read the report of the board of direction, which was received, and, on motion of Mr. Alfred Carr, unanimously adopted.

Mr. John W. Luke offered the following resolution : —

Resolved, That the report of the board of direction for the past year, as read by the president, shows a very gratifying condition of the affairs of the library, and the thanks of the association are hereby tendered to the officers and members of the board for the faithful manner in which they have discharged the duty imposed on them.

The resolution was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Alfred Carr offered the following resolution : —

Resolved, That the proceedings of this meeting be furnished the daily papers of the city for publication, and that six hundred copies of the same be printed in pamphlet form for gratuitous circulation.

The resolution was adopted.

On motion of Mr. Edwin Harrison, the meeting adjourned.

GERARD B. ALLEN,

Chairman.

W. C. BUCHANAN, }
J. R. LIONBERGER, } *Secretaries.*

TREASURER'S ANNUAL REPORT.

MERCANTILE LIBRARY,
St. Louis, January 13, 1880. }

GENTLEMEN: — I have the honor to submit the following report of my receipts and disbursements during the year ending December 31, 1879, and of the present financial condition of the association, viz.:

Exhibit "A" — Cash account.

Exhibit "B" — Balance sheet.

Exhibit "C" — Profit and loss account.

EXHIBIT "A" — CASH ACCOUNT.

RECEIPTS.

To Balance from last report	• •	\$1,369 92
To memberships account —		
Initiation fees	• •	\$310 00
Life-members	• •	800 00
Proprietors	• •	2,035 00
Clerks	• •	2,580 00
Beneficiaries	• •	3,511 00 —
To rentals account —		
Hall stores	• •	11,605 27
Grand hall	• •	5,340 00
Ante-rooms	• •	130 00 —
To miscellaneous account —		
Organ rentals	• •	45 00
Fines	• •	597 65
Extra books	• •	422 50
Magazines	• •	132 90
Newspapers sold	• •	50
Books lost and paid for	• •	16 10
Catalogues sold	• •	5 00 —
		1,219 65

EXPENDITURES.

By Books	• •	\$4,030 32
Books — British Patents	• •	136 46 —
Binding and repairing books	• •	1,425 42
Grand hall	• •	898 02
Ante-rooms	• •	66 21
Insurance	• •	1,465 00
Interest	• •	2,220 00
Magazines	• •	135 77
Newspapers	• •	578 63
Periodicals	• •	476 33
Organ repairs	• •	14 00
Repairs of building	• •	1,159 19
Salaries	• •	8,024 15
Mercantile Library Hall Company	• •	53 95
Sinking-fund, 4 U. S. 4 p. c. bonds	• •	4,053 75
By expense account —		
Advertising	• •	142 85
Fuel	• •	216 30
Furniture repairs	• •	25 00
Ice	• •	92 80
Lights	• •	1,858 97
Petty expenses	• •	541 54
Printing	• •	192 87
Postage	• •	61 90
Stationery	• •	166 57
Freight	• •	118 01
Water supply	• •	160 00 —
Balance — Cash in treasury	• •	3,576 81
		586 83
		\$28,900 84

EXHIBIT "B" — BALANCE SHEET.

DEBIT.	CREDIT.
To Books purchased	\$100,303 84
Books donated	40,077 08 — \$140,380 92
Cash	586 83
Catalogues	245 00
Cabinet of minerals	500 00
Fine Arts —	
Paintings and engravings	13,234 00
Statuary	9,735 00
Numismatic collection	2,546 65
Old relics	110 00 —
Furniture	25,625 65
Organ	14,023 10
Real estate	2,492 80
Sinking fund	140,000 00
Stage scenery	4,053 75
	100 00
	<hr/>
	\$328,008 05

EXHIBIT "C" — PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

DEBIT.	CREDIT.
To Binding	\$1,425 42
British Patents	136 46
Expense	3,576 81
Insurance	1,465 00
Interest	2,220 00
Magazines	2 87
Repairs	1,159 19
Salaries	8,024 15
Balance — Net gain this year	12,344 82
	<hr/>
	\$30,354 72
	<hr/>
	\$63 79
Beneficiaries	3,511 00
Books donated	956 53
Books, extra issue of	422 50
Clerks	2,580 00
Fine arts	3,000 00
Fines	597 65
Grand hall	4,441 98
Initiation fees	310 00
Life-members	800 00
Organ rentals	31 00
Proprietors	2,035 00
Stores	11,605 27
	<hr/>
	\$30,354 72

Very respectfully,

THOMAS E. TUTT,
Treasurer.

ANNUAL REPORT.

ROOMS OF MERCANTILE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION, }
ST. LOUIS, January 13, 1880. }

To the Members of the St. Louis Mercantile Library Association.

GENTLEMEN : — The thirty-fourth year of the existence of your association has passed, and it becomes the duty of the board of direction to advise you of the manner in which it has taken care of the trust confided to it by you, and to give a brief statement of the history of the institution during the past year, and of its present condition and prospects.

As shown by the following statement, our gain for the year, in the number of members, is but small — twenty-seven in all — and this gain has been made only in the last four months. We trust that this may prove a true indication that the general improvement in business has at last reached us, and that the coming year will show a more substantial increase, and one that will reflect more credit on the good taste and culture of the St. Louis public.

The membership list is as follows : —

January 1, 1879	3,195
Added during the year	366
	<hr/>
	3,561
Lost by death, removal, etc.	339
	<hr/>
Leaving at present	3,222

Classified as follows : —

Honorary members	20
Life-members	667
Proprietors	469
Clerks	1,006
Beneficiaries	1,060
	<hr/>
Total	3,222

BOOKS.

The amount which we have been able to appropriate to the purchase of books during the year is \$4,167.78, against only \$1,847.38 for the previous twelve months; and the expenditures for binding have been large in proportion. It is gratifying that we have been able to increase thus largely the sum expended in a manner so beneficial to the interests of the Library, and the augmentation in the number of volumes on our shelves, in their character and value, will be found fully to correspond with the increased outlay.

The following list exhibits in detail the work and expenditure in the book department, and, when compared with the previous year's report, shows a gain of 2,367 volumes, and an increased outlay of \$2,231.97 in the purchase of new and the repair and preservation of old books.

Volumes reported last year	50,916
Added during the year 1879, viz.—	
Volumes purchased	1,788
Volumes periodicals bound	314
Volumes newspapers bound	17
Volumes presented	360
	2,479
From which deduct—	
Volumes lost and paid for	10
Worn out and condemned	102— 112
Leaving a net increase of	2,367
And a grand total of	53,283
Volumes bound during the year	2,031
Volumes repaired during the year	624
Total	2,655

The expenditures by the book committee have been as follows:—

For the purchase of books	\$4,166 78
For the purchase of newspapers	578 63
For the purchase of periodicals	476 33
For binding and repairing books	1,425 42
Total	\$6,647 16

Among the purchases for the year are many works of great beauty and value, which well deserve a careful examination by the lovers of art. The titles of a few of them are given in the following list:—

Bergerat ,M. E. *Les Chefs-d'œuvre d'Art, à l'Exposition Universelle, 1878.*
Encyclopædia Britannica. 9th edition.
Ferguson, James. *Temples of the Jews.*
Garnier, Charles. *Le Nouvel Opéra de Paris.*
Glück, —. *L'Album de l'Exposition.*
Grimoüard de Saint Laurent, Henri J. *Guide de l'Art Chrétien. Etudes d'Esthétique et d'Iconographie.*
Isabelle, M. E. *Les Edifices Circulaires et les Dômes.*
Laborde, Alex. (Comte). *Les Monumens de la France.*
Michaud, J. F. *Histoire des Croisades. Illustree par Gustave Dorè.*
Renan, E. *Mission de Phénicie.*
Russell, W. H. *The Prince of Wales's Tour in India.*

Upwards of five hundred volumes of popular French and German books, including the works of many standard modern authors, are among the year's additions to our shelves. Three cases of new English books, all late productions, have just arrived, and will be ready for issue in a few days. They number about four hundred volumes, and comprise the choicest works lately issued from the English press.

We have also been favored by the American Association for the Advancement of Science with a gift of a complete set of its publications, twenty-seven volumes; we have received donations from the British Commissioners of Patents, sixty-seven volumes; from Missouri State Board of Agriculture, sixty-three volumes; and from Harvard and Yale Colleges, complete sets of their catalogues and reports.

Another pleasing feature of the year's work is a very handsome increase in the number and improvement in the character of the books issued to readers. The increase in the issue amounts to 8,958 volumes, and the classification shows a decided diminution in the number of books of fiction called for, contrasted with a largely increased demand for works of a higher class. The account of books issued

is so carefully kept that there is no room for a suspicion of mistake, and as the same feature was exhibited, though in a less degree, in our last annual report, when comparing 1877 with 1878, the conclusion that the appreciation of the higher classes of literature is becoming more diffused among us seems as certain as it is gratifying.

The statement of books issued is as follows:—

Number of books issued to subscribers during the year is 119,997

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT.

	1878.	1879.
History	19,093	22,773
Philosophy	24,463	25,370
Poetry and Art	10,082	15,908
Fiction	57,401	55,946
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	111,039	119,997

PERCENTAGE OF EACH CLASS.

	1878	1879.
History	17.1	18.9
Philosophy	22.0	21.1
Poetry and Art	9.1	13.3
Fiction	51.8	46.7

The want of additional shelf-room is again becoming urgent, and some measures will have to be taken to supply the necessity by providing cases for four or five thousand volumes. This can only be done by a rearrangement of those now in the library-room, and an addition to their number. This will render the room — already too dark — darker still, and necessitate the use of gas during the day-time to a greater extent than before, thus adding to the heavy expenditure for gas which we are now called upon to meet. These gas-bills amount to more than \$2,500 per annum, and form an important item in our expense account. Every effort has been made to diminish the consumption, by removing a large number of burners, but the bills remain about the same.

CATALOGUE.

The card catalogue is kept up, and is very complete as regards all books obtained since its commencement, about three years ago. Every book is listed by the author's name and by the subject treated of—a single book sometimes requiring as many as fifty cards in the classification of its subject-matter under the proper heads.

BUILDING.

The building is in as good condition as the means of the association allow, though a great deal could be most advantageously expended in its improvement and adornment. The expenditure for repairs during the year amounts to \$1,159.19, which was all that could be spared. The reading-room has been repainted, the chess-room papered, the corridors painted and whitened, the grand hall brushed up, and the old hot-air furnace used for heating the library-room replaced by a new one. These, with some other indispensable repairs, exhausted the sum we were enabled to appropriate for such purposes.

Insurance on the building and contents remains the same as reported last year, viz.:—

On the building	\$60,000
On the contents	95,000
Total	\$155,000

All of your stores are rented to good tenants, and no rent payments are in arrear. The receipts from the grand hall have been \$5,340, against \$5,302 in 1878. There is a sum of \$100 still uncollected, which should be added to this year's receipts. The room is greatly in need of painting, and the seats should be upholstered anew.

FINANCES.

The stock account, January 1, 1879, showed a total of \$273,881.94, and, as shown by balance-sheet, now aggregates \$286,226.76—a gain of \$12,344.82 for the year.

The treasurer's report, which has been read to you, exhibits in detail the present financial condition of the association, and shows that your board of direction have carried out your instructions, given at the last annual meeting, in regard to the creation of a sinking-fund.

The amount due the Mercantile Library Hall Company has been reduced, by a payment of \$53.95, to \$4,311.61, and we have good reason to hope that we shall never be called upon to pay this. The association owes not a single dollar of floating debt, and the sinking-fund contains \$4,000 United States four per cent bonds, valued at \$4,053.75, which, with the cash on hand, \$586.83 — total, \$4,640.58 — shows the amount of the reduction of your debt during the year. That debt now stands as follows: —

Loan at six per cent per annum	\$37,000 00
Less cash and sinking-fund	4,640 58
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Total	\$32,359 42

The number of strangers who have during the year availed themselves of the use of our rooms, extended to them free of cost for thirty days, is 561. During the prevalence of the yellow fever in Memphis, the refugees from that city were invited to make use of the rooms, and the invitation was accepted by a large number of them.

Since our last annual meeting, Mr. J. H. Alexander, another of the former presidents of our association, and its warm friend and supporter always, has been removed from among us by death. Resolutions of respect and regret have been passed by your board and recorded on the minutes.

We cannot better close this brief summary of the history of the Mercantile Library Association of St. Louis during the year 1879 than by announcing to you the generous gift made to it by Mr. John H. Beach, of the four fine oil paintings, by George C. Bingham, which already orna-

ment the walls of your reading-room. The pictures are entitled,—

Stump Speaking,	The Election,
Announcing the Vote,	The Jolly Flatboatmen.

These pictures, always of interest as delineating some of the phases of Western life of forty years ago, are of great merit, and have, since the death of the artist, become specially valuable. They will be counted among the most valued of our art-treasures, and constitute a handsome memorial of the generosity of the giver.

R. R. HUTCHINSON,
President.

APPENDIX.

GIFTS DURING THE YEAR 1879.

GIVERS.	VOLS.	PPHS.
American Association for the Advancement of Science .	27	. . .
American Institute of Mining Engineers	2	. . .
Arkansas, State of	1	. . .
Astor Library, New York	1	. . .
Bell, Mrs. Leverett . . . . .	. . .	12
Bebrose, Jr., Louis	1	. . .
Betts, Rev. G. C.	1	. . .
Boston Board of Health . . . . .	. . .	1
Boston Public Library	3	2
Brown, B. Gratz . . . . .	. . .	3
Campbell, Rev. C. D. N.	2	. . .
Carter, John H.	1	. . .
Chicago Public Library . . . . .	. . .	2
Cincinnati Public Library	3	12
Clarke, Robert . . . . .	. . .	1
Cole, Hon. Nathan	21	. . .
Crawford, C. G.	1	. . .
Crawford, W. H.	1	. . .
Delany, John O'F.	2	. . .
Diekenga, J. E.	1	. . .
Dillon, John A.	10	. . .
Doherty, Rev. D. J.	2	. . .
Goode, H. M.	6	. . .
Grady, Mrs. Mary . . . . .	. . .	13
Gray-Baker Book and Stationery Company	2	. . .
Great Britain, Commissioners of Patents	67	. . .
Hains, Maj. P. C.	2	. . .
Hartford College Library . . . . .	. . .	1
Hartford Young Men's Institute . . . . .	. . .	1
Harvard College	4	21
Harvey, James	1	. . .
Helper, H. R.	2	. . .
Hutchinson, R. R.	1	. . .
Hughey, G. W.	1	. . .
Jewett, E. E.	4	. . .

GIVERS.	VOLS	PPHS.
Jones & Co., G. I.	1	...
Kershaw, Dr. J. M.	1	...
King, Moses	1	...
Leslie, Edward G. . . . .	...	9
Macnally, D. R.	1	1
McRee, William G.	1	...
Melcher, J. F.	2	...
Milwaukee Public Library . . . . .	...	1
Missouri State Board of Agriculture . . . . .	...	1
Missouri State University	63	...
Morelle, A. L.	1	...
Morgan, H. H.	1	...
Moritz, Charles	1	...
Myer, Gen'l A. J.	16	...
New York Mercantile Library Association . . . . .	...	1
New York Produce Exchange	1	...
New York State Library	2	...
Pratt, George C.	1	...
Pulsifer, William H.	1	...
Ramsey, Charles G.	2	...
Reaser, Rev. J. G.	1	...
Relfe, W. S.	1	...
Richmond, Va., Board of Health . . . . .	...	1
Ryan, Rt. Rev. P. J.	1	...
St. Louis Art Society . . . . .	...	1
St. Louis Board of Health . . . . .	...	1
St. Louis City	2	...
St. Louis Fair and Exposition . . . . .	...	1
St. Louis Loan Exhibition	1	...
St. Louis Public School Library . . . . .	...	3
San Francisco Mercantile Library . . . . .	...	1
Shannon, Hon. R. D.	1	...
Shaw, Henry	1	...
Sherman, Gen'l W. T.	1	...
Simpson, Col. James H.	1	...
Skues, R. A.	3	...
Smee, Alfred	1	...
Smithsonian Institute	9	...
Sonneschein, Rev. S. H.	1	...
Sunderland, B.	1	...
Tracy, John H.	5	...
Triplett, John R. . . . .	...	1
United States Engineers Department	2	...
United States Interior Department	59	...

GIVERS.	VOLS.	PPHS.
United States Navy Department	1	...
United States State Department	5	...
United States Treasury Department	1	...
United States War Department	7	...
Warder, George W.	1	...
Warfield, E. W.	2	...
Warren County Library . . . . .	...	2
Washington and Lee University . . . . .	...	1
Washington University . . . . .	...	1
Waterhouse, S.	1	...
Wherry, Col. William M.	12	...
Woodward, Tiernan & Hale	1	...
Yale College.	6	20
Yeatman, James A.	1	...

